

## PRESS RELEASE

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## TUCSON MAN INDICTED FOR POSSESSING 4,300 POUNDS OF MARIJUANA

**TUCSON, ARIZONA** -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona announced that on August 6, 2003, a federal grand jury at Tucson, Arizona, returned a one count indictment against Thomas Christopher Foster, date of birth 11/17/77, of Tucson, Arizona.

The indictment alleges that on April 26, 2003, Mr. Foster knowingly possessed with intent to distribute approximately 4,300 pounds of marijuana that was found in a house located in Oro Valley, Arizona. Mr. Foster has been detained in custody without bond.

The federal indictment charges the defendant with violating Title 21 of the United States Code, Section 841 (a)(1).

A conviction for this crime carries a maximum penalty of life imprisonment, a \$4,000,000 fine or both. The crime also carries a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of 10 years.

An indictment is simply the method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and raises no inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until competent evidence is presented to a jury that establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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The investigation preceding the indictment was conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Oro Valley Police Department.

The prosecution is being handled by Raquel Arellano, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona.

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